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HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR
Writ Petition (C) No. 6683 of 2006

PETITIONER : Jai Narayan Singh, S/o Shri Hanumant, aged about 38 years, Assistant Teacher, Tribal Welfare Department, at present posted in deputation in G.A.D. Department, D.k.S. Bhawan, Raipur as Personal Secretary Hon'ble P.H.E. Minister.

Versus

RESPONDENTS :
1. Government of India Through Shri S.C. Khutia, Joint Secretary, Human Resource Department, New Delhi.
2. Director (U.T.) Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of Education & Literacy Shashtri Bhawan, New Delhi 110001.
3. State of Chhattisgarh through the Secretary School Education Department, D.K.S. Bhawan, Raipur (CG).
4. Director of Public Instruction State of Chhattisgarh, Pension Bada, Raipur (CG).
5. Shri K.R. Pisda, Collector, South Bastar Dantewada.

(WRIT PETITION UNDER ARTICLE 226 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA)

(SB: Hon'ble Mr. Satish K. Agnihotri, J.)

Present : Shri Manoj Dubey, Advocate for the petitioner.
Shri Bhishm Kinger, Advocate for respondent No. 1 & 2.
Shri Vinay Harit, Deputy Advocate General for the State.

ORDER
(Passed on this 11th of October, 2007)

1. On the basis of the recommendation made by the State Government, the Ministry of Human Resource Development Department of School Education & Literacy, Government of India vide letter dated 19.08.2006 (Annexure P/5) invited the petitioner to receive National Teachers Award, on award distribution ceremony held on 05.09.2006.

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2. In the meantime, it was found that the recommendation made by the State Government had not considered the fact that the petitioner has not done teaching work in the preceding three years.

3. Accordingly, the Government of India withdrew the name of the petitioner for grant of award and the petitioner was not given the said award on 05.09.2006.

4. Being aggrieved, the petitioner has filed this petition seeking a writ/direction to the respondents to give the National Teachers Award 2005 for the best teachers to the petitioner.

5. The question involved in this petition is whether the petitioner has accrued any right to be awarded as National Teachers Award 2005, on the basis of invitation by the Government of India.

6. The Government of India, subsequently, cancelled the invitation of the petitioner for grant of award on the basis of information submitted by the Government of Chhattisgarh that the petitioner did not have the basic requirement i.e. teaching experience for the last three years.

7. It is well settled that a person cannot claim conferment of an award or prize as a matter of legal right. The proposed conferment of the best teacher's award to the petitioner was withdrawn on the basis of the recommendation made by the State of Chhattisgarh. The conferment of award is the discretion of the Central Government and the same cannot be insisted by invoking writ jurisdiction, as no legal right exists which is enforceable in law.

8. In view of the facts and circumstances, no interference is warranted. Thus, this petition is accordingly dismissed, summarily.

Sd/-
Satish K. Agnihotri
Judge

Sahu